

Subject: Whistleblower letter  
From: Brad Racino <bradracino@inewssource.org>  
Date: 8/12/19, 12:50 PM  
To: kaallen@ucsd.edu  
CC: Jill Castellano <jillcastellano@inewssource.org>

Good afternoon Ms. Allen,

This morning we received a whistleblower complaint alleging a number of problems within UCSD's HRPP (attached).

The letter specifically referred to actions taken by you in regards to your leadership position within UCSD.

Please find the following list of questions and let me know when would be a good time to talk about them:

1. How do you supervise IRB staff? What does that entail? Do they report directly to you?
2. Do you consider it a conflict of interest that, as is stated in the letter, you supervise both IRB staff and research staff? How do you avoid potential conflicts of interest?
3. The letter claims that you remain in IRB committee meetings when IRB protocols submitted by your own research coordinators are voted on. It also claims you edit and approve IRB letters for studies submitted by your coordinators. Is this accurate? If so, wouldn't that be a conflict of interest that could damage the integrity of the research projects?

Thank you.

-Brad

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*P.S. We want to hear from you! [Take a brief survey](#) to help us get to know you and the topics you want us to look into.*

— Attachments: —

Noncompliance and Human Subject Research Violations Report at  
UCSD.pdf

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